

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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R 150848Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9324

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 0251

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, PL, AO, UR

SUBJECT: POLISH PRESS ON OAU SUMMIT

1. THE POLISH PRESS HAS REPORTED THE OAU SUMMIT ON ANGOLA IN A FACTUAL MANNER, GENERALLY REFRAINING FROM POLEMICAL COMMENTARY, BUT MAKING CLEAR ITS SUPPORT OF THE MPLA REGIME. PRESS ACCOUNTS HAVE DONE LITTLE TO HIDE THE FACT THAT THE ADDIS ABABA MEETING RESULTED IN AN EVEN SPLIT AMONG AFRICAN COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, IN THE ONLY EDITORIAL COMMENT SO FAR TO APPEAR FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF THE OAU MEETING, ZYCIE WARSZAWY ON JANUARY 12 INTERPRETED THE DEADLOCK AS EVIDENCE THAT "PROGRESSIVE" AFRICAN FORCES MUST STILL CONFRONT THOSE AFRICAN COUNTRIES DEPENDENT ON INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL AND IMPERIALIST POWERS, ASSERTING THAT IT IS CLEAR THAT THE SAME FORCES WHICH UNLEASHED WAR IN ANGOLA HAVE EXERTED PRESSURE ON OAU MEMBERS NOT TO RECOGNIZE THE MPLA GOVERNMENT.

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2. CONTRASTING WITH THIS OFFICIAL VIEW AND PROBABLY MORE REFLECTIVE OF A MAN-IN-THE-STREET ATTITUDE IS THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT THAT APPEARED ON JANUARY 11 IN THE "VIEW OF THE WEEK" COLUMN OF THE LAY-CATHOLIC WEEKLY, TYGODNIK POWSZECHNY. ITS ASTUTE JUXTAPOSITION OF OAU, SOVIET, AND US POSITIONS REVEALS A CLEAR AND COURAGEOUS STAND THAT SOMEHOW ELUDED THE CENSORS:

"THE MAJORITY OF OAU COUNTRIES DEMAND THE EVACUATION OF ALL FOREIGN ARMIES FROM ANGOLA AND AN ENDING IN THIS WAY OF THE CIVIL WAR. IN THE UNITED STATES OPPOSITION IS GROWING AGAINST ANY KIND OF AMERICAN INTERFERENCE. THE MOSCOW PRAVDA WRITES: 'THE SOVIET UNION, TRUE TO ITS INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATION, HAS FURNISHED AND CONTINUES TO FURNISH--MAKING NO SECRET OF THIS--MORAL AND MATERIAL AID TO PATRIOTIC FORCES OF ANGOLA(THE MPLA) IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST COLONIALISM. ALL STATEMENTS THAT THE USSR INTENDS TO CREAT MILITARY BASES THERE AND THESES ABOUT SOVIET MILITARY EXPANSION IN AFRICA ARE AN INVENTION.'"

DAVIES

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NNN

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